

CLAIMS:

1. A control apparatus for emulating the physical characteristics of binary data stored in EPROM media for use with a digital processing device, comprising a CPU, operating system, dynamic memory, input/output capability and executable software, including:

- a. a control means;
- b. a non-volatile storage means;
- c. at least one V-PROM resident on said non-volatile storage means;
- d. a communications means between said V-PROM and said CPU;
- e. a presentation means;
- f. a means for registering authorized users of said presentation means;
- g. a reporting means for activities of said users;
- h. a security means for protection of contents of said V-PROM;
- i. a selection means for isolating subset of said contents of said V-PROM;
- j. a connection means between said V-PROM and at least one external EPROM-compatible device.

2. The control apparatus of claim 1, wherein said control means chooses among said subsets of said contents of said V-PROM for presentation to said EPROM-compatible device.

3. The control apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein said EPROM-compatible device comprises authentication capability.

4. The control apparatus of claim 3, wherein said authentication capability is designed for gaming activities.

5. The control apparatuses claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said subsets of said contents of said V-PROM comprise gaming applications.

6. A method of emulating the physical characteristics of binary data stored in EPROM media for use with a digital processing device, comprising a CPU, operating system, dynamic memory, input/output capability and executable software, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. controlling said emulation method;
- b. storing said executable software and related data on a non-volatile storage means;
- c. providing at least one V-PROM resident on said non-volatile storage means;

- d. providing a communications means between said V-PROM and said CPU;
 - e. providing a presentation means;
 - f. registering authorized users of said presentation means;
 - 5 g. reporting activities of said users;
 - h. protecting contents of said V-PROM;
 - i. isolating subsets of said contents of said V-PROM;
 - j. providing a connection between said V-PROM and at least one external EPROM-compatible device.
- 10 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said software relates to the field of gaming.
8. The method of claim 6 or 7, wherein said EPROM-compatible device relates to authentication activities.